

# McNairy County Independent.

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## Our New York Letter.

EDITOR INDEPENDENT:

Your readers have perhaps heard as much as they want to about New York City, but a few more words may not hurt, especially as all Americans ought to know something about the largest city in the world. When I say that there were 75,000 deaths here last year; that 400,000 children are without full school privileges; that four hundred millions of dollars are invested in subways alone, and that the assessed valuation of New York City property is four thousand millions of dollars, you can begin to conceive of what the city is. But there are few people who can think in billions. Counting as fast as could be done, it would take 250 years to count one billion.

Instead of saying so much about the huge metropolis, let us turn for awhile to a country which is much like Tennessee, as there are many native Tennesseans there. That is Arkansas. You hear a good deal of fun poked at the State, but I am here to say that I found as much culture there as anywhere in the South, and more than in some places farther north. But up in the mountains you find some curious specimens of humanity. A wave of religious frenzy swept over that section some years ago, while I was there. You could see thin, long-haired men walking along the roads, their eyes fixed upon a Bible carried in the hand, whispering their prayers as they walked, and women with strange lights in their eyes talking about "the second blessing" and "the language of the Holy Ghost." Most of these were plain, every-day harmless "Holiness" people, honest and friendly as anybody, even if a little eccentric; others were "Holy Rollers" or "Holy Jumpers" and but little removed from the madhouse. I intend some day to describe a Holy Roller meeting I saw at Eureka Springs, but it is my purpose today to tell of a funny character I met in the mountains of northwestern Arkansas seven years ago while on government business.

It became necessary to learn the reputation for chastity and good morals of a certain woman whose husband, a pensioner, had deserted her. Through the testimony of the leading citizens of the little town where she lived, I found that she was upright and moral, and infinitely better than her husband who had tried to blacken her character in order to keep her from sharing his pension. The evidence seemed unanimous that she was above reproach in every way, till I met an old mountaineer, a brother of the soldier. I asked him what the woman's reputation was.

"Well, now, mister, you want the truth, and you'll get it from me. Her reputation is mighty bad, mighty bad."

When pressed for particulars, the old fellow continued, snapping out his words that must be heard to be appreciated.

"Well, mister, I'll tell you one thing. Some time ago I was a-goin' along the road, and I seen her a-comin'. Thinks I to myself, 'we've had a fallin' out, but I'm a goin' to be Christ-like and speak to the pore critter. So I says when she comes up: 'Howdy, Sally, howdy!' just as polite and nice as I knowed how. Don't you know, that critter turned up her nose and passed by just like I was nothin' to her. Now, you know no perfect Arkansas lady would do anything like that."

"Is that all you have to say against her?"

"Mister, that wasn't all she done. 'Stid of answerin' me like a lady, she goes to knockin' the backstep on me."

"What was that? Explain yourself."

"Mister, that's a sort of hateful dance people takes when they haint got no use for ye; they sorter dance backwards and kick up the dust. Now, you know no perfect Arkansas lady--"

"Is that all you have to say against that woman?"

"Indeed hit haint, mister! Me and my wife Sarepta passed her house awhile after that, and seen her on the porch; we both spoke to her just as nice and friendly as we knowed how. And do you think that critter opened her mouth? 'Stid of that, she commenced a-knockin' the backstep right thar on the porch--"

"My dear sir," said I, "you will have

to show something more serious than that to keep the woman from getting a pension."

"I'm a comin' to that, mister! Jist you wait a minute. You know my brother is a Holiness. He never done no wrong in his life, and he, being sanctified, and got the second blessing, hit was jist naturally impossible for him to sin. And ye know them there Holinesses can't stand the sound of no musical instrument, 'cuz hit's an abomination unto the Lord. Well, that there woman went and bought a parlor organ, and the first thing my pore brother knowed, they had it set up in the house."

"What?"

"She shore did. You hear me. And they kept jinin' on that there organ as late as nine or ten o'clock at night, when all honest people was in bed. And my pore brother, him bein' a Holiness, couldn't stand anything like that and they jist pintadly drove him away from his own home. Now, mister, you know that wern't right."

"So that was the worst she did?"

"No hit wern't, mister! She jist bodaciously broke my brother up! She run hoe-downs over him, that's what she done!"

"Ran hoe-downs over him? You will have to explain yourself. The government never heard of hoe-downs before."

"Now, mister, I'll tell you what a hoe-down is. Hit's one of the lowest down, commonest, set-fredest, vulgar-est dances you ever hearn tell of. Hit's somethin' like waltzin' if you know what that is," he added, looking around and speaking low. "That there hoe-down dancin' and that orgin jinin' kept up away into the night, and my pore brother a-sittin' and a-sorrowin and a-whittlin' splinters out on the wood-pile, and the tears a-streamin' down his face like he had lost his best friend. Mister, he loved his little family!" This with a choking voice full of emotion. There

were only eleven in the family, so his love must have been great, I thought. "But she drove him off. No Holiness could stand that orgin-noise and that devilish hoe-down business. Mister, I never seen hit myself, nor would I ever look at sich hell-fired doins!"

"Is that all you can say against your brother's wife?"

"Well, haint that enough?"

I saw that the old man was getting excited, and calmed him down with the assurance that I certainly was shocked, and would see what could be done. It is hardly necessary to say that the woman got her pension. Evidence in the case showed that she was an angel of light compared to the old man himself, who, in spite of his holiness, was anything but an angel.

Another old chap I met in Johnson county, Arkansas, got so full of the holiness idea that he had, as he thought, regular communion with the Almighty. One day, he announced, God commanded him to give a beating to another old fellow who had been crippled when his house blew down in a hurricane. The holy one met his neighbor going to Clarksville, pulled him out and pummeled him within an inch of his life. The old victim had two stalwart sons in Clarksville, who, when they heard of the exploit, looked up His Holiness and beat him, with ax handles, till he could scarcely get home. In the court he explained that he had beaten up his neighbor by command of the Lord. The boys defended themselves by saying that they got their orders direct from Old Scratch. The judge thought that evened things up, and discharged them all with a warning to "go and sin no more."

These same people would take you in and treat you like a brother if you came among them as a stranger, and not stop to ask you how much money you had. That is, if they do not live very close to a railroad. Somehow, the iron of the rails enters the soul of man.

LINDSAY S. PERKINS.

## AUCTION SALE OF Mares AND Mules

FOR ONE DAY ONLY  
ONE O'CLOCK P. M.



FOR ONE DAY ONLY  
ONE O'CLOCK P. M.

at the STOCK YARDS  
IN SELMER, TENNESSEE  
Saturd'y, Feb. 5

On the above date I will sell at public auction without reserve a car load of mares and mules; consisting of 18 mares, 3 to 6 years old, weigh from 900 to 1,200 lbs., some broke single and double and all halter broke; 7 mules, 3 and 4 years old, all broke, and are from 14-3 to 15-1 hands high. This stuff must all go regardless of price, and no sale postponed on account of bad weather. One good saddle horse will also be sold. Remember the date and that I am the same boy who sold a car here in December. Stuff sold for cash or on credit with good bankable note.

LEM. R. BINGHAM, Owner and Auctioneer.

W. H. STONE, Clerk.

### For County Superintendent

My announcement for County Superintendent will be seen elsewhere in this paper. My life work has been in the school room. I have had a long experience in both the elementary and high schools of this state, eleven years of which have been spent in the schools of McNairy county. My record in and around Selmer and Adamsville is an open book.

I realize that the duties and responsibilities of a County Superintendent deserve and require time and attention. If elected to this office, I am not expecting to teach, but will be equally interested in the betterment and up-building of all the schools in McNairy county.

Respectfully,  
H. J. Cox.

### Marriage Licenses.

Luther Hodges to Maggie Millard.  
John Humphrey to Isley James.  
Thos. Wrenn to Fenora Rogers.  
B. M. Gadberr to Minnie Higgins.  
John Nichols to Loreta Haggins.  
John Martin to Fashin Chambers.  
L. A. Stout to Martha Griffin.  
T. L. Smith to Eldon Springer.  
Willie Huckabee to Teen Henson.  
J. M. Thompson to Grace Perkins.  
H. B. George to Jennie Findley.  
Jesse Glidewell to Nola Chenault.  
Hurley Kerby to Myrtice Archer.

### Prices Advance

Doubtless you have been advised of the late advance on all steel and wire goods. We are amply protected against the situation for the time being, and we expect to protect our customers as long as the quantity lasts. Get your share by making an early purchase.

SELMER HARDWARE CO.

Buy your bananas from Warren & Co. They have a house full.

### Special Notice.

I have made arrangements with one of the largest fish and oyster firms in the South to supply me with Red-snapper fish and fresh oysters every Saturday, and beginning Saturday, I will have fish and oysters. In addition to this, I can put the groceries to you.

J. W. ABERNATHY.

### Land Transfers.

W. J. C. Murphy to A. K. Luttrell, 19½ acres, \$163.  
S. K. Hurst and wife to L. B. Wells, 1 acre, 94.  
L. J. Barry to Brown Stewart, 3 acres, \$175.  
Hubert Mangel to J. D. Billings, 110 acres, \$520.  
V. A. Hughes and wife to D. M. Hughes, 2 acres, \$20.  
A. B. Kemp and wife to M. Hughes, 2½ acres, 20.  
L. J. Barry to M. E. Whisenant, 123 acres, \$70.  
H. B. Deoni and wife to E. G. Younger, 66 acres, \$300.  
Musette Lookman to S. L. Haynes, 50 acres, \$700.  
J. A. Miller to J. H. Crow, 73½ acres, \$350.  
(We find from the records 37 transfers made, and only the foregoing 10 give the number of acres. We do not publish other than legal deeds. —EDITOR.)

### For Sale.

I have for sale a lot of choice, selected Japanese cane seed for sale at 10c a pound, special price per bushel. Double the yield of ordinary sorghum. Finely flavored syrup.  
S. K. WALLACE, Middleton, Tenn.

Let me send you 2 dozen white wove calendar finish envelopes 10 cents, postpaid.  
CLAUDE MISKIMIN, Indianapolis, Ind., 3015 Station St.

You can make up your mind that the remarkable reductions in this Clearance Sale deserves your immediate action.

That's putting it bluntly, but we are doing it for your benefit. Wollen goods, silks and dress goods, ribbons, laces, embroidery, hosiery and all notions in the Women's Store, including corsets and brassieres, will be

Discounted Twenty Per Cent

Boys' Suits all One-Third Under Regular Price

Boys' Overcoats Just One - Half Price

14 Men Can Buy Overcoats at One - Half Regular Price

Outfitters to Women & Children

CHAS. H. GISH  
CORINTH, MISS.

Outfitters to Men and Boys

### Something for Nothing

Youngs Island, S. C.

To get started with you we make you the following offer: Send us \$1.50 for 1,000 Frost Proof Cabbage Plants, grown in the open air and will stand freezing, grown from the Celebrated Seed of Bolgina & Son and Thorborn & Co., and I will send you 1,000 Cabbage Plants additional Free, and you can repeat the order as many times as you like. I will give you special prices on Potato Seed and Potato Plants later. We want the account of close buyers, large and small. We can supply all.

ATLANTIC COAST PLANT CO

## Flour! Flour! Flour!

We have a full car load of FLOUR and shorts, bran, which will be on the side track at Selmer, Saturday, February 5 and Monday, February 7, which we are going to sell from 50c to \$1.00 a bbl. less than it can be bought elsewhere

in McNairy county. We bought it before the big advance and now we are going to give our customers the biggest bargains in the world on Good Flour

these two days right out of the car and strictly guarantee every barrel. We do this to show our appreciation of the fine business you and your friends are giving us.

J. T. Warren & Co.

10 CENTS will bring you for FOUR MONTHS as a trial subscription, the South's greatest poultry journal. It has more practical articles in one month than others have in six. A paper that is worth something to every farmer and beginner in the poultry business. It is a paper that every poultry club member should get. Send direct to the Mississippi Poultryman, Box 7, Tupelo, Miss.

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